

boys and girls had been taken by the above mentioned Caribs; and we sent them to Spain to the King, as a sample. To that island the Admiral gave the name of *Santa Maria de Gadalupe*.⁴

From this island of Guadaloupe, which belongs to the Caribs, we set sail on 10 November and on the 13th of the same month we came to another island of Caribs very beautiful and fertile, and we arrived at a very beautiful harbor.⁵ As soon as the Caribs saw us they ran away to the mountains like those of the other island and they emptied their houses, into which we went and took whatever pleased us. In these few days we found many islands where we did not go ashore. A few times we anchored, that is, for the night; and when we did not anchor we kept the ship hove-to, and this in order not to make any headway and for fear of running afoul of the said islands, to which, because they were close one to the other the Lord Admiral gave the name of Eleven Thousand Virgins;⁶ and to the one previously mentioned, Santa Cruz.

One of those days while we were lying at anchor we saw coming from a cape a canoe, that is to say a boat, which is how they call it in their language, going along with oars so that it looked like a well-manned *bergantino*,⁷ on which there were three or four Carib men with two Carib women and two Indian slaves, of whom (that is the way the Caribs treat their

their bows in such manner that, had it not been for the shields, half of us would have been wounded. But I must tell you that to one of the seamen who had a shield in his hand came an arrow, which went through the shield and penetrated his chest three inches, so that he died in a few days. We captured that canoe with all the men, and one Carib was wounded by a spear in such a way that we thought he was dead, and cast him for dead into the sea, but instantly saw him swim. In so doing we caught him and with the grapple hauled him over the bulwarks of the ship where we cut his head with an axe. The other Caribs, together with those slaves, we later sent to Spain. While I was in the boat I captured a very beautiful Carib woman, whom the said Lord Admiral gave to me, and with whom, having taken her into my cabin, she being naked according to their custom, I conceived desire to take pleasure. I wanted to put my desire into execution but she did not want it and treated me with her finger nails in such a manner that I wished I had never begun. But seeing that, (to tell you the end of it all), I took a rope and thrashed her well, for which she raised such unheard of screams that you would not have believed your ears. Finally we came to an agreement in such manner that I can tell you that she seemed to have been brought up in a school of harlots. To that cape of that island the Admiral gave the name